

Tales from Panchatantra

The Boy Who Was a Snake

सर्परूपी चलो



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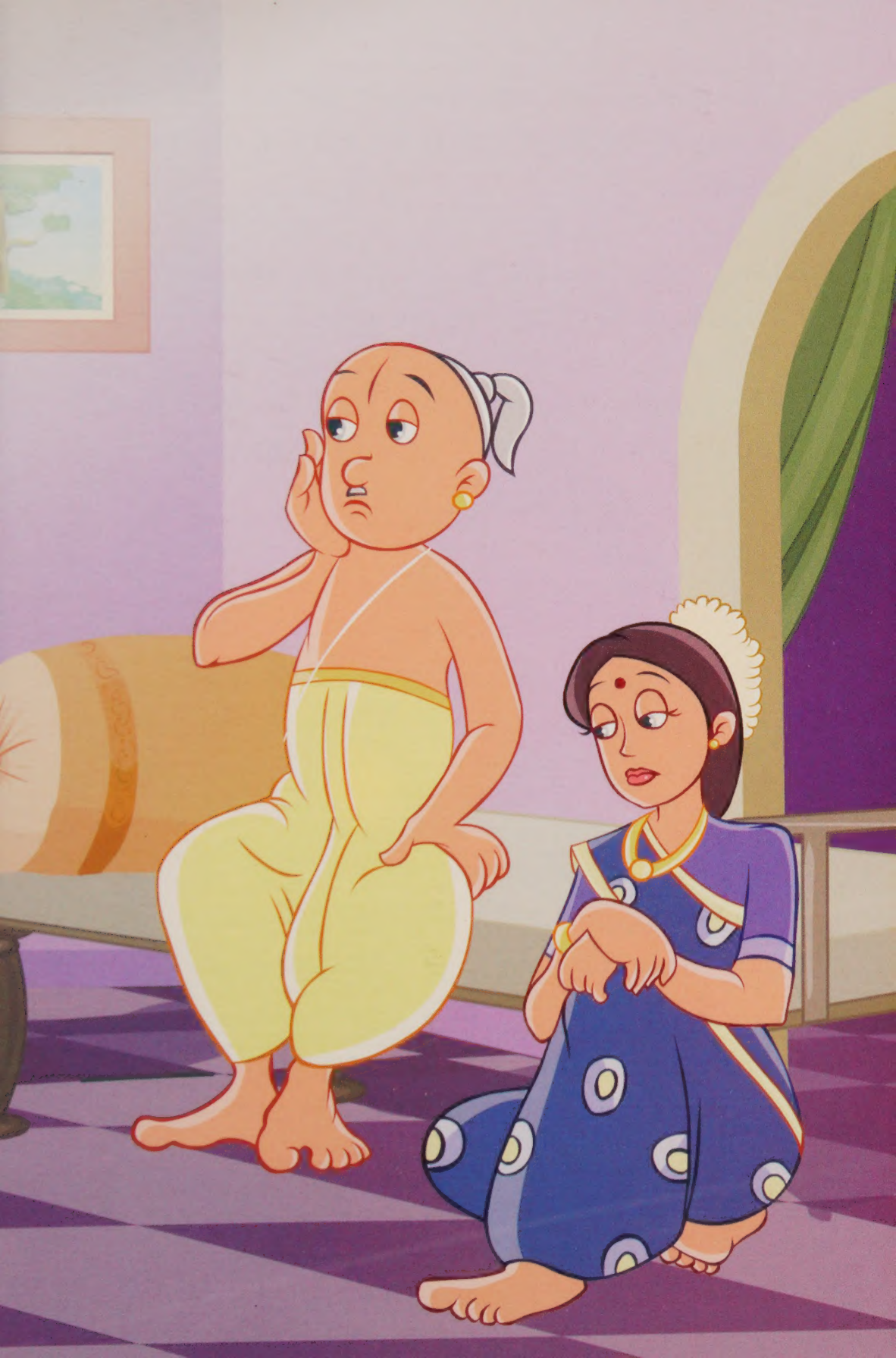
In a little village, far away, there lived a Brahmin and his wife.

The two were very unhappy because they had no children.

मस्त दूरचे एक गांवांतु एक ब्राह्मण आनी
तागेली बायल राबतालीं.

तांका भुर्गीं नाशिलीं; देखून तीं दोगीं खूब
दुःखित आशिलीं.





One day, at last, the woman had a baby. But strangely enough, the baby turned out to be a snake.

Their friends and relatives were shocked and told them to get rid of the snake.

The couple did not agree. They loved their son very much even if he was a snake.

खूब दिसा उपरांत त्या बायलेक एक भुर्गो जालो. पुण अजापाची गजाल म्हळ्यार तो भुर्गो सरोप जावनु आशिलो.

तांगेले सोयरे संबंधिकांक सगळेंक हाज्जेन धपको बसलो. जालेतित्ले बेगीन कशीं तरी त्या सरपा पिल्ला पासून मुक्त जावचें बरें अशें तांणी सल्लो दिलो.

पुण ब्राह्मण जोडप्यान कोणांचेय उतर कानार व्हेलें ना. सरोप जरी जाल्लो तर तो तांचो चलो भुर्गो. ताची खूब अपुरबाय करताले.



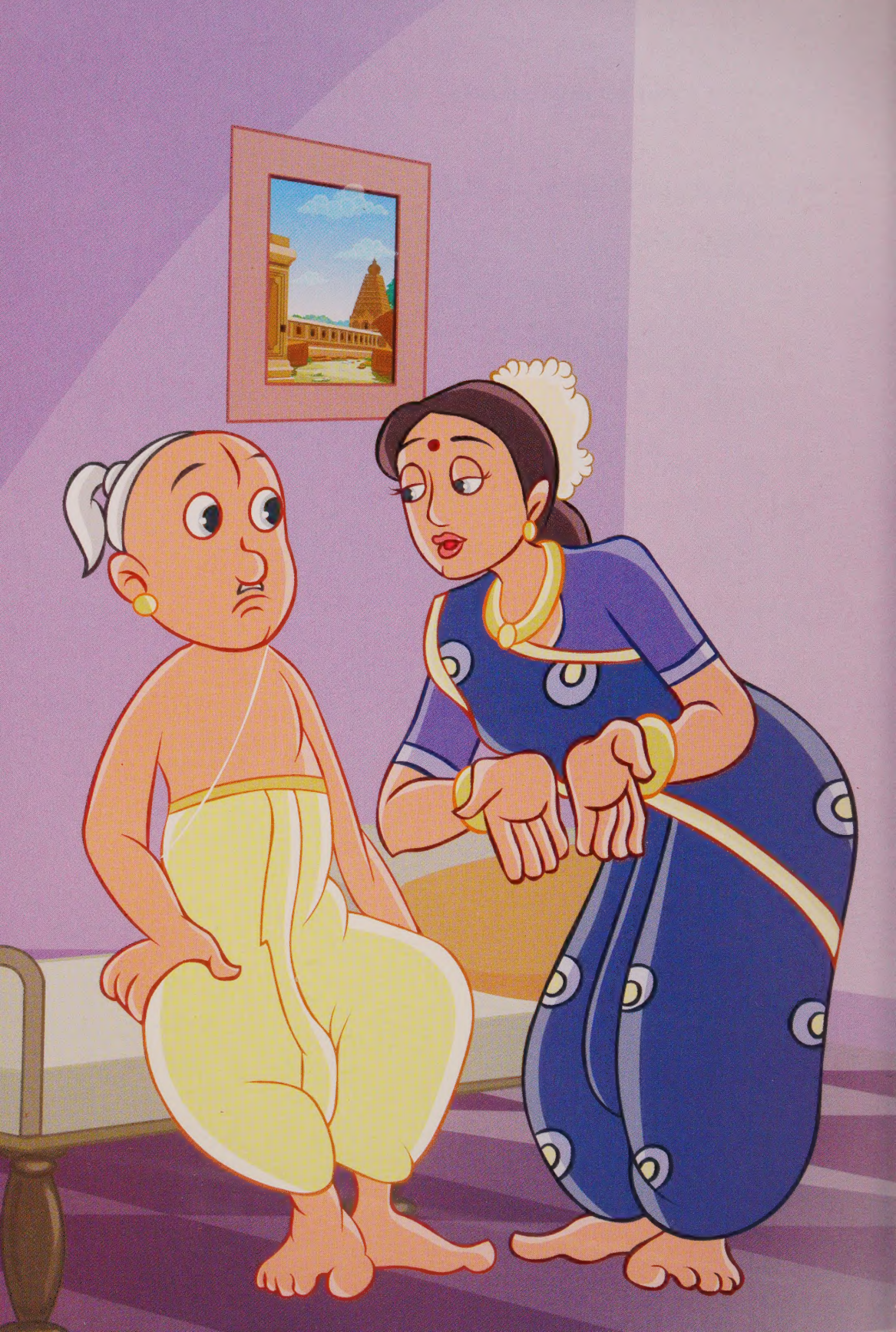




Several years passed and the snake grew up.

The mother began to think of getting her son married too.

कित्येक वर्सां जालीं आनी सरोपचलो होड जालो.
आतां ताचें लग्न करका म्हण आवयक उमळशीक
आयली.



One day when the Brahmin came home he found his wife in tears.

“What’s the matter?” he asked her. “Why are you crying?”

“Oh! Our son is old enough to be married, yet no one wants to marry him. Please find him a bride,” pleaded his wife.

एक दिवस ब्राह्मण घरा परतून येता, तर कितें पळयता?
बायल ताची दोळेंतल्यान दुःख गळयत बसल्या.

तांणे विचारलें – “आगो! जाल्ले तर कितें? कित्याक
गो तूं रडता?”

ब्राह्मणाले घरकान्नीन सांगलें – “हे पळया, आमचो
भुर्गो आतां व्हडलो जाला! लग्ना वाडला! जाल्यार
ताचे बरोबर लग्न जावपाक कोणेंय चली तयार जायना.
दय करून ताका एक व्हकल सोदियात मुं?”

The Brahmin set out to search for a bride for his son.

But as soon as a girl found out that his son was a snake she would get frightened and run away.



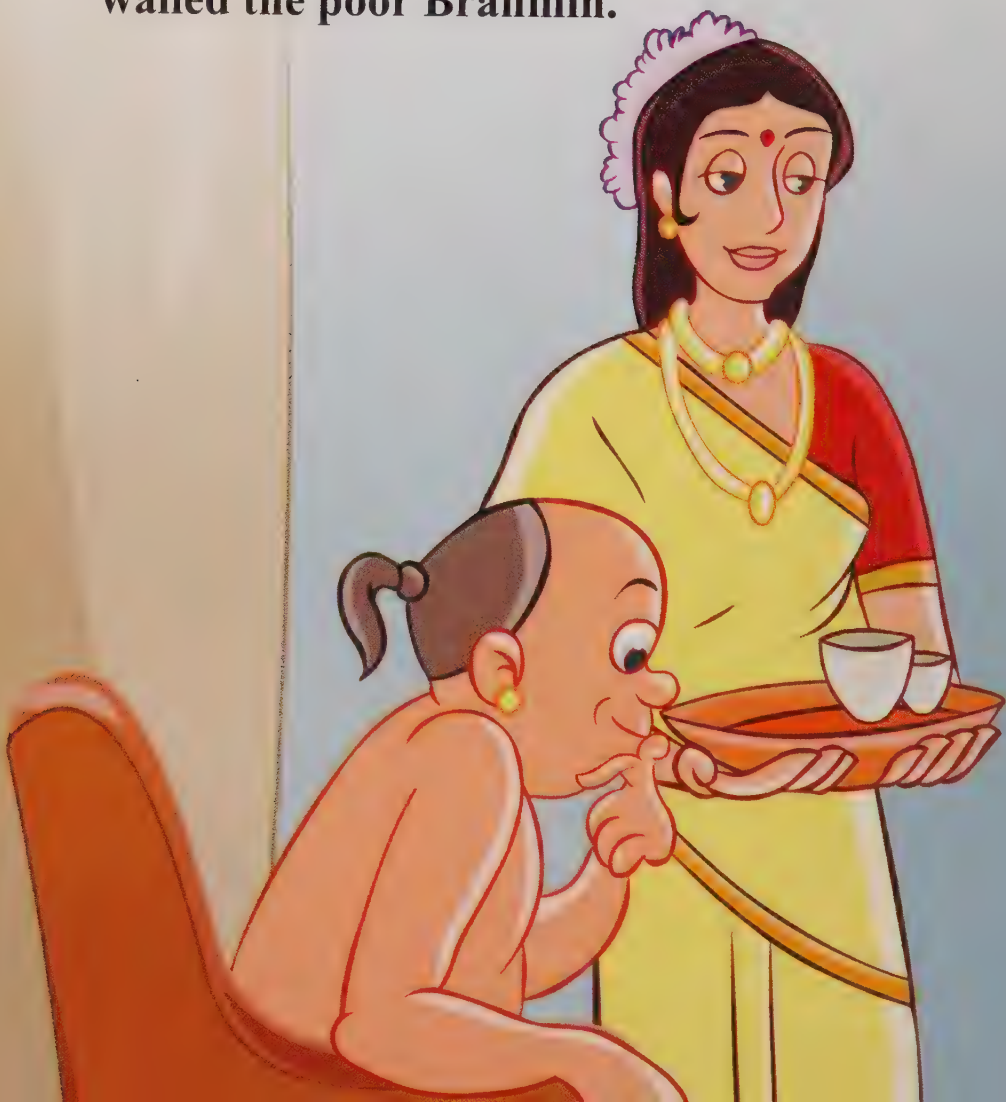
ब्राह्मण आपण्यांले पुत्ताक चली सोदपाक भायरसरलो.
पुण चलियांक व्हेत एक सरोप म्हळ्ळी बातमी कळचे
भित्तर भीन्नु धावन वेताल्यो.



Finally the Brahmin went to visit an old friend of his.

“What brings you to this town?” his friend asked after he had welcomed him.

“What can I say? I have traveled far and wide searching for a bride for my son but have failed,” wailed the poor Brahmin.



आखेर ब्राह्मण आपण्याले पूर्विल्ले एक दोस्ताक भेटचाक गेलो.

मित्रान ताक्का येवकार करीत ह्या गांवांत कित्याक आयला अशें विचारलें.

लाचार ब्राह्मण पाप! रडचाक लागलो – “कितें सांगू दोस्ता? मेगेले पुत्ताक एक कन्या सोदत सोदत खंय खंय सगळे भोंवतु आयलो हांव! पुण सगळें व्यर्थ!”



As soon as his friend heard this, he jumped up and exclaimed, “Why did you not say so before? I’ll give my daughter as bride to your son!”

The Brahmin tried to explain about his son but in vain. In the end he left for his village with a bride for his son.



हैं आयकतकेर तो दोस्त खोशयेन उडून पडलो. तांणे उद्गार काडलो "अरे हाच्च्या! तूवे पयलेंच हो विषय म्हाक्का कित्याक सांगू ना? म्हजीच चली आसामुरे! हांव तिक्का तुगेले पुताक दीव्नु लग्न करपाक तयार आसां."

ब्राह्मणान आपण्याले पुत्ताले बद्दल सांगचाक कित्लें प्रयत्न केलें तरीय तो आयकना जालो. आखेरीक आपण्याले चल्या खतीर कन्या निश्चय करून तो तागेले गांवाक परतलो.



As the day of the wedding approached, all the neighbours gathered to warn the bride that she was about to marry a snake but she would not listen to them.



लग्ना दीस लागीं पावले. शेजार-वासारे लोक व्हकलेंक
कित्ले तरीय जाग्रताय सांगपाक आयले कि तूं सर्पाक
लग्न जायत आसा म्हण. पुण चलियेन कोणांचेय उतर
कानार व्हेलें ना.



The wedding took place. The girl was devoted to her husband, the snake, and did everything that a good wife should.

Every night she would lay him down in a warm and cosy box.



लग्न भारी गडदीर जालें. व्हकल आपल्यालो घोव सर्पाक
खूब माया -मोग करताली आनी निष्ठावान जावन आशिली.
तागेली बरीकरुन सेवा करताली.

सदां रातचें ताका एक गरम अशे डब्यांत घालून दवरताली.



One night the girl saw a handsome young man enter the room.

She was terrified and tried to run away but the man caught her hand and stopped her.

“Do not be frightened. It is me, your husband,” he said.

अशें दीस वेताना एक दीस रात्री त्या चलियेन
आपण्याले कूडांतु एक सुंदर तरुण येवचो पळयलो.

ती भीव्नु धांवचाक लागली. इतल्यांत तांणे तिचो हात
घट्ट धरून थांबयलें.

तांणे म्हळें “भीवनाका गो! हांव तुगेलो घोव मुगो!”



Seeing that she did not believe him, he transformed into a snake and back into a man.

This would happen every night. The man would leave his snake skin behind and spend time till dawn with his wife.

One day the Brahmin saw what happened through the window.

जाल्यार ते चलियेक विश्वास जावूं ना. तेन्ना तो तरुण परत सरोप जालो आनी रोखडोच सुंदर तरुण जालो.

हें आतां सदां रातचें घडचा लागलें. तो तरुण सदां आपल्याली सर्पाची कात सोडून, तरुण रूपान फाल्लें जावूं पर्यंत बायलेले बरोबर उरतालो.

हें सगळें ब्राह्मणान एक दीस खिडकिंतल्यान पळयलें.



He rushed into the room at once, seized the snake skin and threw it into the fire. His son was released at last.

He thanked his father for saving him from the terrible curse that had bothered him all his life.

तो रोखडोच धांवत तांगेले कूडांत गेलो आनी सर्पाची कात काडून जळचे उज्जांत उडोवन दिली. अशें तागेलो पूतु एक भयंकर श्रापांतल्यान मुक्त जालो.

जीवनभर सतावचे ह्या भयंकर श्रापांतल्यान आपण्याक मेकळो केल्ले बददल पुतान बापायक धन्यवाद दिले.





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The Boy Who Was a Snake

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A Brahmin and his wife have a snake for a son and want to find a bride for him. Do they succeed? Read this magical tale to find out.

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